United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Phoenix Field Office 21605 North 7th Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85027

In reply refer to: 9214 (020)

August 8, 2003

Dear Interested Publics:

On August 8, 2003, as the responsible official, I signed the Decision Record and Finding of No Significant Issue (FONSI) for the Weaver Mountain Fuels Reduction Project Environmental Assessment (EA). The planned actions described in the EA, Alternative 2- the Proposed Action, are necessary to achieve the desired future conditions (DFC).

The DFC is to have thirty to sixty percent less dense interior chaparral vegetation, which will improve wildlife and livestock habitat and reduce the potential for large wildfires in the project area. The DFC is to mimic a more natural fire regime, moving the project area towards Fire Condition Class 1, within five to ten years.

Management ignited fire and mechanical treatment will be implemented to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire in the Weaver Mountain area and provide for public and firefighter safety. The specific objectives for this project area are to: 1) create a mosaic pattern of burned/treated vegetation; 2) reduce the threat of large wildland fires; and 3) maximize benefits to domestic livestock and wildlife.

Any person who believes that this decision is adverse or believes that it is incorrect has the right to appeal to the Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision in accordance with the 43 CFR 4.400. To file an appeal correctly, follow the procedures outlined on the attached form, Form 1842-1, Information on Taking Appeals to the Board of Land Appeals. The appellant has the burden of proof of showing that the decision is adverse or incorrect.

The detailed record of the environmental assessment process and process files are available for public review at the Kingman Field Office. For further information about this decision and the analysis process, contact Sherry. Hirst, Zone NEPA Coordinator and Environmental Planner, 2475 Beverly Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401, or telephone (928) 692-4435.

I appreciate your efforts and patience as the Weaver Mountain area analysis and decision finally come to closure. I look to our future cooperative effort in the project implementation and monitoring of the project area. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at my office (623) 580-5500.

Sincerely,

Teresa A. Raml Field Manager